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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/683,667	01/31/2002	Andrew Rodney Ferlitsch	SLA1038	1478

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EXAMINER

EBRAHIMI DEHKORDY, SAEID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/683,667

Applicant(s)

FERLITSCH, ANDREW RODNEY

Examiner

Saeid Ebrahimi-dehKordy

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 and 26-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23, 26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/1/06 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-23 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lobiondo (U.S. patent 5,287,194) in view of Snipp (U.S. patent 5,699,495)

Regarding claim 1, 23 Lobiondo disclose: A method of printing from a computing device (note column 2 lines 32-38), said method comprising: sending a print task to a local print system component in a local network receiver (note Fig.1, the Ram included in the server, column 3 lines 37-40) acquiring with said local print system component (note Fig.1 item 50 the scheduler) printer data for a plurality of remote printers located in a remote network wherein said plurality of remote printers are not directly accessible to said local print system component (note column 4 lines 35-46-50). However Lobiondo does not disclose: said plurality of remote printers being in communication with a remote print system component located in said remote network; sending said print task

Art Unit: 2625

from said local print system component to said remote print system component in said remote network; and sending said print task, from said remote print system component in said remote network, to at least one of said plurality of printers in communication with said remote print system component for printing. On the other hand Snipp discloses: said plurality of remote printers being in communication with a remote print system component located in said remote network (note Fig.2 items 14 the printers are being in communication with the key printer resources18, column 3 lines 10-21) sending said print task from said local print system component to said remote print system component in said remote network (note Fig.2, column 4 lines 17-28) and sending said print task from said remote print system component in said remote network, to at least one of said plurality of printers in communication with said remote print system component for printing (note column 4 lines 17-36). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Lobiondo's invention according to the teaching of Snipp, Where Snipp in the same field of endeavor teaches the way remote status of the remote printers are determined in order to send the job to those remote printers.

Regarding claim 2 Lobiondo discloses: The method of claim I wherein said local print system component is a spooler (note column 3 lines 37-40)

Regarding claim 3 Snipp discloses: The method of claim I wherein said local print system component is a print processor (note Fig.1 item 34)

Regarding claim 4 Snipp discloses: The method of claim I wherein said remote print system component is a spooler (note Fig.1 item 40)

Art Unit: 2625

Regarding claim 5 Snipp discloses: the method of claim 1, wherein said remote print system component is a print processor (note Fig.1 item 34).

Regarding claim 6 Snipp discloses'. The method of claim 1 further comprising reconfiguring said print task according to said printing data related to said print task (note column 4 lines 30-35).

Regarding claim 7 Snipp discloses: The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring is performed via said local print system component (please note column 4 lines 17-28).

Regarding claim 8 Snipp discloses: The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring is performed via said remote print system component (note column 3 lines 10-21).

Regarding claim 9 Snipp discloses the method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring enables said print task to be printed on at Least one remote device (note column 4 lines 1-14).

Regarding claim 10 Lobiondo disclose: The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring comprises reconfiguring said print task for cluster printing on said plurality of remote printers (note column 4 lines 54-64).

Regarding claim 21 Snipp discloses: The method of claim 20 further comprising reconfiguring said print task for said at least one suitable remote device (please note column 4 lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 11, 20 Lobiondo disclose: A method of remote printing, said method comprising: sending a print task to a local print system component on a local network

Art Unit: 2625

(note Fig.1, the Ram included in the server, column 3 lines 37-40) determining characteristics of said print task (note column 3 lines 41-45) sending said print task to a said remote print system component; and sending said print task from said remote print system component to at least one of said plurality of remote printing devices for printing (note column 4 lines 35-65). However Lobiondo does not clearly disclose: determining the availability of a plurality of remote printing devices located on a remote network wherein said remote printing devices are not directly accessible to said local print system component said determining being performed via a remote print system component in said remote network, wherein said remote print system component is in communication with said local print system component; determining the capabilities of said plurality of remote printing devices. On the other hand Snipp discloses: determining the availability of a plurality of remote printing devices located on a remote network wherein said remote printing devices are not directly accessible to said local print system component (note Fig.2 item 18 the key printer resources, which gets the printers 14 information, while note directly in contact with the local workstation 12) said determining being performed via a remote print system component in said remote network (note that the item 18 of Fig.2 is located on the remote side of the network) wherein said remote print system component is in communication with said local print system component (and where the print server side 16 and the key print resources are located on the remote side of the network) determining the capabilities of said plurality of remote printing devices (note Fig.2 item 18 the key printer resources, which gets the printers 14 information). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

Art Unit: 2625

skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Lobiondo's invention according to the teaching of Snipp, Where Snipp in the same field of endeavor teaches the way remote status of the remote printers are determined in order to send the job to those remote printers.

Regarding claim 12 Lobiondo disclose: The method of claim 11 further comprising selecting, via said local print system component, said at least one of said plurality of remote printing devices (note column 4, lines 46-50).

Regarding claim 13 Snipp discloses: The method of claim 11 further comprising reconfiguring said print task (note column 4 lines 18-28 where the print spooler 40 is configured so that a different print processor could be plugged in).

Regarding claim 14 Snipp discloses: The method of claim 11 wherein said determining characteristics is accomplished via said local print system component (note column 4 lines 2-6).

Regarding claim 15 Snipp discloses: The method of claim 13 wherein said determining characteristics is accomplished via said remote print system component (note column 6 lines 21-27).

Regarding claim 16 Lobiondo disclose: The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises job splitting among said plurality of remote devices (note column 4, lines 46-60).

Regarding claim 17 Lobiondo disclose: The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises copy splitting among said plurality of devices (note column 4 lines 46-64).

Art Unit: 2625

Regarding claim 18 Lobiondo disclose: The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises division of the print said print task into multiple print tasks for printing on a cluster of said remote printing devices (note column 4 lines 54-64).

Regarding claim 19 Lobiondo disclose: The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises changing the destination of a print task (note column 4 lines 55-60)

Regarding claim 22, 26 and 27 Lobiondo discloses: A system for remote printing, said system Comprising: a local print task receiver (note Fig.1, the Ram included in the server, column 3 lines 37-40) for receiving a print task from a local computing device on a local network (note Fig.1, column 3 lines 37-40) a print task analyzer (note Fig.1 item 50 the scheduler) for determining a print task requirement (note column 3 lines 41-45) a print task distributor (note Fig.1 item 50 the scheduler) for distributing said print task to a remote print system component On said remote network (note column 4 lines 46-50) and a printer selector (note Fig.1 item 50 where the scheduler is design to make the selection of the best printer to do the printing, column 4 lines 46-54) for comparing printer data with said print task requirement and for selecting at least one of said plurality of printers based on said comparing (note again column 4 lines 46-55). However Lobiondo dose not clearly disclose: a remote printer data acquirer for acquiring printer data for a plurality of remote printers on a remote network that does not share printers with devices on said local network. On the other hand Snipp discloses: a remote printer data acquirer for acquiring printer data for a plurality of remote printers on a remote network that does not share printers with devices on said local network (note

Art Unit: 2625

Fig.1&2, item the key printer resources 18, column 3 lines 10-21 where the key printer resource 18 would determine the capability of the printers 14 on the remote side).

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Lobiondo's invention according to the teaching of Snipp, Where Sinpp teaches the way the remote side of the network would acquire the capability of the printers to determine the correct printer to use.

Contact Information

- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy* whose telephone number is (571) 272-7462.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams, can be reached at (571) 272-7471.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for **formal** communications; please mark
"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE")

Or:

(703) 306-5406 (for **informal** or **draft** communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or **"DRAFT"**)

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Knox building on 501 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA.

Application/Control Number: 09/683,667

Page 9

Art Unit: 2625

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy

Patent Examiner

Group Art Unit 2626

November 2, 2006



KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER